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PTO/SB/30 (09-03)

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**Request  
for  
Continued Examination (RCE)  
Transmittal**Address to:  
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P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

|                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Application Number     | 10/659,409                |
| Filing Date            | September 10, 2003        |
| First Named Inventor   | Steven P. Hergott, et al. |
| Art Unit               | 3643                      |
| Examiner Name          | David J. Parsley          |
| Attorney Docket Number | P06668US0                 |

**This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.**  
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a. ☒ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_ii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_b. ☒ Enclosedi. ☒ Amendment/Replyiii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)iv. ☐ Other PTO/SB/08A (2 pages)**2. Miscellaneous**a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_**3. Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to

a. ☒ Deposit Account No. 50-2098i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)iii. ☒ Other Any additional fees due or credit any overpaymentb. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 385.00 enclosedc. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.****SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

|                   |                   |                                   |        |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Name (Print/Type) | TIMOTHY J. ZARLEY | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 45,253 |
| Signature         |                   | Date                              | 6/8/04 |

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

|                   |                   |      |        |
|-------------------|-------------------|------|--------|
| Name (Print/Type) | TIMOTHY J. ZARLEY | Date | 6/8/04 |
| Signature         |                   |      |        |

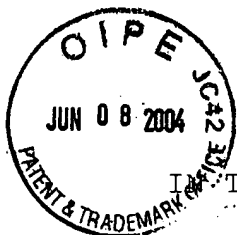
This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPL. NO. : 10/659,409 CONFIRMATION NO.: 4641  
APPLICANTS : Steven P. HERGOTT, David S. HAMBLIN,  
and Michael J. HARDY  
FILED : September 10, 2003  
TITLE : METHOD AND MEANS FOR STUFFING ANIMAL CASINGS  
WITH SAUSAGE EMULSION  
TC/A.U. : 3643  
EXAMINER : David J. PARSLEY  
DOCKET NO. : P06668US0  
CUSTOMER NO. : 34082

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**


In response to the final Office Action of May 19, 2004, Applicant requests continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. In addition to this request, Applicant submits the following amendment.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this document and the documents referred to as enclosed therein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 8th day of June 2004.

  
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Timothy J. Zarley